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1. [redacted] sandpits, about 15 km east of Kozhaisk (36°1'E/55°30'N), 4.5 km north of the high way to Moscow. About 15 to 20 jet aircraft took off daily behind a woods east of the sandpits. An average of three planes was aloft, but 26 planes were once counted in August 1949.

2. Description of aircraft (see also sketch) :

Air intake in nose, air exhaust at tail, swept back wings, lateral leading and trailing edges, rounded wing tips, strikingly large rudder assembly forming tail, swept back elevator assembly set in mid-rudder assembly, section of fuselage forward of wings about equally long as section aft of wings, span about 10 meters, stubby, stream-line shaped fuselage (looking like "crammed carp"), cockpit in nose compartment as far as closely aft of leading edge of wings.

3. The 36 aircraft took off by threes at intervals of about one minute, the interval between the individual three planes being fractions of a minute. It took about 15 minutes for the planes to gather over the sandpits. While gathering, the planes made left turns and climbed to about 2,000 meters. The aircraft then headed west, flying in formations of three planes, one behind the other. The total length of the formation was estimated at 3 km. About 30 minutes later, the planes landed at intervals of about one minute.

4. The airfield from which the jet planes took off was about 5 km east of the sandpits and north of the highway.

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Comment :

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a. The reported airfield is probably the Tuchkovo airfield which, according to previous reports, is occupied by swept back jet fighters. The description of the jet fighter type agrees in many features with the observations by other sources, particularly as to the sweep back of the wings and the cockpit set much to the fore.

b. It is assumed that a fighter regiment of the Air Defense, equipped with a swept back jet fighter type, was stationed at the field in the summer of 1949.

1 Annex : Jet Fighter Type Observed East of Mozhaisk.

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